

National Monument for the Umpqua?

In the heart of the Oregon Cascade Mountains lies a forest with an extraordinary history and spectacular natural attributes. Ancient forests, rich in diversity, rest upon a landscape shaped by the eruption of Mount Mazama, one of the

most violent volcanic events of all time. The proposed Medicine Mountain National Monument offers ample picture-perfect views, abundant recreational opportunities, and needed protection for an area whose natural beauty is threatened by extraction.

Now is the time to take steps to permanently protect this rich and diverse forest! We ask for your support to designate this incredible National Monument. The name Medicine Mountain comes from the Klamath Indian name for Mount Bailey. According to legend, priests feasted on the summit and communed with the upper world.

The 206,000 acres that make up the proposed monument include popular destination points such as Mt. Bailey and Diamond Lake, abundant waterfalls, dozens of

trails for all kinds of recreation and some of the most magnificent Ancient Forests remaining in the Pacific Northwest. Ancient forests and stunning geologic features left by the eruption of Mount Mazama are the basis of this diverse area. The boundaries of the proposed national monument fall entirely within the Diamond Lake Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest plus Sherwood Butte on the Rogue River National Forest. Through its size and linkages between adjacent wilderness, this monument provides critical connectivity for many large-ranging and old-growth dependent species -- including 20 species of conservation concern. Early proposals for Crater Lake National Park included parts of this area in recognition of its outstanding beauty and ecological value.

Protected status such as wilderness, parks and national monuments bring economic vitality to adjacent communities.



UW Members enjoy snow shoeing on Diamond Lake with Mount Bailey in the background. All of this is part of the proposed National Monument.

Counties with relatively attractive environments and higher percentages of land devoted to wilderness, national parks, and national monuments are more likely to experience stronger economic growth. People are attracted by the quality of life these protected areas bring, which is largely based on the presence of healthy streams and intact native forests. Any negative impacts from a reduction in timber harvest could be offset by the benefits of designating a national monument.

Conservation organizations are banding together to support the designation of the Medicine Mountain National Monument. A report prepared by Pacific Biodiversity Institute documents the scientific justification for designating this area as a National Monument under the Antiquities Act of 1906. Please join us in our efforts to protect this unique and amazing place in the Cascade Mountains.

Recreation in the Monument

Whether you're hiking along the North Umpqua River, soaking in the hot springs, boating on a lake, photographing wildflowers in a Cascades meadow, or catching a spectacular sunset at Mt. Bailey, one thing is for sure, the amazingly rich lands of the proposed Medicine Mountain National Monument provide recreational opportunities that are difficult to surpass.

Travelers come to Oregon to see the breathtaking views, encounter rare wildlife and explore the many outdoor opportunities. The proposed Medicine Mountain National Monument contains many of the natural qualities visitors like -- extensive old-growth forests to hike, many rivers, lakes and streams to fish, and majestic

views from peaks like Mount Bailey. Recreation in the Umpqua National Forest already has been more concentrated in the area of the proposed monument -- 72% of the National Forest recreation use.

The proposed Medicine Mountain National Monument is composed largely of the Diamond Lake Ranger District in the Umpqua National Forest, which hosts a collection of recreational opportunities, such as:

- + 11 developed campgrounds
- + 68 hiking trails
- + 12 horseback riding trails
- + 8 mountain biking trails
- + 2 resorts

See Monument Enhances Recreation (page 11)



inside

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Umpqua Watersheds was incorporated as a private non-profit organization in 1995. Its members are residents of the Umpqua Basin who are dedicated to protecting and restoring the watersheds of the Umpqua River Basin. Many of our past and present Board of Directors are forest management professionals, health forestry technicians, professionals, small business owners, and educators. Some of us build recreational trails, fall and mill timber, and sit on a number of community committees and councils.

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All contributions to Umpqua Watersheds are

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YOUR Public Involvement

Dear Supporter,

As this past year comes to an end, and a new one begins, we get a chance to look ahead and to reflect on the past. Umpqua Watersheds and I have had quite a year, and guess what, we have another big year planned.

One of the things that become really clear to me, over the past year, is how important each of you are to Umpqua Watersheds. With your public involvement, our goals to keep trees standing and rivers clean (today and into the future) are attainable

It's through your in-put, your time, your dollars, and especially your dedicated loyalty to our mission that Umpqua Watersheds has accomplished so much this year.

Your support of the Medicine Mountain National Monument is a great example of that dedication. I'm so heartened by the many letters, and phone calls you've all generated for this worthy proposal. It's that kind of backing that's kept the Medicine Mountain challenge at the top of our list.

Your comments whether formal or informal, to federal, state, and local agencies have made our jobs easier. When ever you take the time to contact the decision makers who represent us, YOU reinforce our democracy.

With "your public involvement" in 2001, Umpqua Watersheds will continue to:

- Keep trees standing in your public forests.
- Secure Monument status for Medicine Mountain.
- Increase environmental education opportunities.
- Keep rivers and streams clean for fish and for communities.
- Broaden our support base.
- Support and encourage our members.
- Increase wilderness designation in Oregon.

Be assured that with the, soon to be, leadership changes in the Departments of Interior and Agriculture, Umpqua Watersheds will remain ever vigilant against the threats to our forests and rivers in the Umpqua.

Our staff and volunteers will keep you informed through "100 Valleys," our quarterly newsletter, e-mail alerts, monthly membership meetings, special appeals, and the least favorite, but sometimes the most effective, the Media. Please call Umpqua Watersheds office if you have any questions or concerns about what you HEAR...

Keep up the good work, we are all counting on each other.

Sincerely,

Penny Lind, Executive Director Umpqua Watershed

PS-Letters to local editors in support of Medicine Mountain National Monument needed immediately!!!

Thank you for your patience during the past few months while our office building was in "destruction & re-construction."

Please stop by and see this old building being restored.

Neighbors United Against Quarry on North Umpqua

Idlyld Park - "NO NUQ" is the acronym for "NO on North Umpqua Quarry," which is a local group of concerned citizens recently formed in opposition to the proposed reactivation of a rock quarry operation along the North Umpqua River in Idlyld Park.

On November 30th, the Douglas county Planning Commission held a public meeting at the Glide High School cafeteria to hear input from our community's citizens. I attended that meeting, and was pleasantly astounded to see the overwhelming turnout! I counted over 150 heads, and as a Glide resident, cannot remember having ever seen this many people in our community together over an issue of local concern.

The owners of the quarry site, who also own the adjoining Elk Haven R.V. Resort, have applied for an operating permit to re-activate this quarry, which has been in-active for 50 years.

Much has changed over the last 50 year, as evidenced by the overwhelming opposition to this quarry by the people in that room. A total of (besides the attorney's) 3 people spoke in favor of the quarry's approval, 2 of whom were a husband/wife team. The rest of the people gathered were united in voicing their opposition to the quarry and many issues were raised which should be of great concern to all UW supporters, and anyone who cares about their environment.

The 6 main concerns were:

Water pollution of the North Umpqua River – The quarry site sits only 500 feet from the North Umpqua River, and has a year-round stream running through the middle of the site. Especially during winter peak flow times, the "slurry" resultant from quarry operations will be carried as sediment directly into the Umpqua. Also, an on-site vehicle servicing area with storage drums is needed for fuel, oil, grease, hydraulic fluids, etc. I don't know about you, but I've never seen a truck servicing garage whose floor wasn't covered with spilled fluids! Again, especially during peak flow times, these will be carried directly into the North Umpqua.

Wildlife Disturbances – There are a number of Osprey nesting sites near by, some inventoried, and some not. At least one site just across the river had an active breeding pair this year. Osprey's are a sensitive "environmental indicator" species, and are protected from some activities by a buffer zone. This is generally 600 feet, which is based on logging activity noises. However, quarry blasting, recovering, processing and loading creates a much greater noise

Six Reasons Against Quarry (Continued on page 13)

IN MEMORY OF:

Brian Rickard

...who hiked with us. We shall see you on the trail again...

New President - Same Old ESA?

What the new administration should do to properly enforce the Endangered Species Act.

Washington, DC - The federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) is our landmark law for protecting the precious plants and animals facing extinction at the hands of human development. A number of species, ranging from the bald eagle to the American alligator, are on the road to recovery at least partly because of the ESA. When used properly, the ESA works to protect species like the Columbia white tailed deer and the Umpqua sea-run cutthroat trout. However, as currently implemented, the Act is doing far too little for too many of the thousands of imperiled species in the U.S. Most species continue to decline.

The ESA's process starts with identifying and officially listing" imperiled species. Once species are listed, federal agencies must protect them. This includes restricting harmful development and resource extraction practices. Of course once species are removed from the list they are no longer provided with these protections. The Columbia white tailed deer and the Umpqua sea-run cutthroat trout provide examples of the current misuse of the ESA. The deer is threatened with delisting and the trout has already been removed from the endangered species list. By using technicalities and faulty data these species are in the process of being placed in even greater danger of extinction. The Administration's premature delistings subject these species to hunting, habitat losses, and other pressures they can ill afford.

Even the much heralded case of the Northern spotted owl hasn't gone away. Owl populations continue to decline as timber companies are exempted from the ESA's habitat protection measures. These exemptions, known euphemistically as "Habitat Conservation Plans" (HCP), cover some 8.3 million acres of non-federal forests in Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, and Montana. Another 8.1 million acres are on the way, as are HCPs affecting other ecosystems around the nation.

The Clinton Administration has played a central role in short-changing endangered species, leading to the question whether the next President will promise to fully protect all imperiled species, rein in widespread ESA exemptions being given to industry, lobby for sufficient funding to achieve species recovery through both regulatory and cooperative approaches, and help move society to more sustainable development and resource uses? Or will we see more business as usual?

You can play an important role in making sure that the next President properly enforces the ESA. By writing letters to your members of Congress, the Council on Environmental Quality, and by calling the White House early next year you can keep up the pressure on the next Administration.

Thousands of acres of the last habitats for rare and endangered species are being destroyed as species continue to go extinct. Water quality, ecosystem health, and the productivity of our forests continue to decline. We cannot afford to perpetuate these trends. Adopting more sustainable forestry and land use patterns will not become easier over time, because we will have fewer resources.

And, as they say, extinction is forever.

Written by Rachel Girshick, intern for American Lands Alliance in Washington, DC.
American Lands Alliance is dedicated to the protection and recovery of North
American native forest, grassland, and aquatic ecosystems; the preservation of
biological diversity; the restoration of watershed integrity; and the promotion of
environmental justice in connection with these goals. www.americanlands.org

Umpqua Updates

Forest Vandals

arly December was a sad day on the Tiller Ranger District. A very special tree was vandalized. Douglas County is home to the world's tallest sugar pine, an attraction to many school children, local people, and tourists. The tree is located 15 miles east of Tiller, on the Tiller Ranger District, in the southern part of the Umpqua National Forest. It is 265 feet tall, 7.5 feet in diameter, and approximately 500-600 years old. Someone used a chainsaw to girdle the tree, which means that a cut was made encircling the tree about five inches deep in some places, less in others.

A cut of this nature could kill the tree if the cut extends into the cambium layer, located just beneath the bark. The thin cambium layer is the living part of the tree and the circulation system carrying water and minerals from the roots up into the leaves and sugars back down to the roots. The bulk of the wood that is inside the cambium layer is dead wood and provides support for the living tree.

Forest managers occasionally girdle trees on purpose to provide snags in areas that lack this particular habitat. Sometimes these trees do survive the girdling, but are structurally weakened. Scientists have discovered that girdled trees have a higher tendency to blow over, breaking at the girdle mark.

Experts believe that the tree may survive this injury, but only time will tell. This stately sugar pine may succumb to an early death indirectly from blowing over, even if it does manage to survive the

damage to the cambium layer. Or, it may succumb to burrowing insects, fungi and diseases that may have entered the wound. Forest Service personnel intend to apply grafting sealant to cover the wound, hopefully protecting the tree from these various dangers.

This has not been the only vandalism on the Tiller Ranger District within the last couple of months. The Railroad Gap shelter, Camp Comfort shelter, and a picnic table were burned down. Also, a weather station was vandalized. This damage has an estimated value of \$30,000 to \$40,000. No price tag can be attached to the vandalism on the tallest sugar pine in the world. It is worth

far more that just the price the lumber would get at a mill. Can this tall tree be replaced?

The girdling of this tree is not an isolated event. Remember the Right View Timber Sale on BLM land where tree sitters were

protesting last winter and spring? Someone girdled the massive tree while the protesters were camping in their temporary tree-top home. The tree was girdled in mid-June, frightening the tree sitters and threatening their lives.

There is a reward of \$7750 for information leading to the arrest of the vandals of the sugar pine. The reward comes from various

There is a reward of \$7/50 for information leading to the arrest of the vandals of the sugar pine. The reward comes from various sources, such as Umpqua Watersheds, the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians, the Umpqua National Forest, Douglas Timber Operators, and other sources.

Anyone with information about any of these acts of vandalism can call: Umpqua Watersheds at 672-7065 or the Umpqua National Forest at 672-6601. Forest Service biologist, Christine Masters, now volunteers at UW's office and is a regular nature columnist for UW quarterly.

UW Sues BLM over Timber Cruising

In our last newsletter we told you we had completed an administrative appeal of Roseburg BLM's cruising methods, called 3P. Using 3P BLM has cut down hundreds of old-growth trees in proposed timber sales each year. 3P cruising targets the biggest and best old-growth in the forest, and kills the trees before the public ever knows it is happening. There is no timber sale notification and no other warning.

If the sale is cancelled or stopped by legal challenges, these century old giants are already dead on the ground. (BLM does cruises to evaluate the monetary worth of the forest at the auction.)

In order to prevent BLM from continuing 3P before judges rule on our appeal, we sued BLM in federal court and received an injunction against this 3P cruising. This doesn't stop the BLM timber sale program. BLM could cruise using other methods. The Forest Service doesn't need to cut a tree down to see its worth. They are cleaver enough to use exterior clues on a standing tree. The BLM has no need to continue with their outdated and crude 3P cruising, but it will take a few judges to convince them of that.

Reported by Francis Eatherington, UW's full time Forest Monitor.

SNOG Update

n November 8th, George Sexton (American Lands) and I traveled to the Snog timber sale, unit 2. Four Forest Service personnel came with us, two from Portland and two from Roseburg. The Forest Service had agreed that we could show them, in the field, our grievances.

The misplaced boundaries on the wet lands are still in the wrong place, and the Forest Service said they would move eventually move it. One of the Portland visitors said he thought the wetland needed logging.

We looked at leave-trees in the units, where the largest trees were marked for cutting and the smaller trees were marked to be left. This is the opposite of what is required by the Northwest Forest Plan. One of the Forest Service employees said they thought we had a point. I asked for the units to be re-marked, but was told that these decisions take time.

On the drive in and out of forest unit 2 we stared at the patchwork quilt of past "management" in the watershed had in the past which prompted several fisheries biologists to recommend no more timber sales like Snog in Dog Prairie Creek.

During this tour, we encountered treesitters who regardless of the six inches of snow on the ground remained vigilant. The tree-sitters asked the Forest Service employees several questions, but the public employees refused to answer them. They would only answer their questions through me.

Logging in Snog is over for the winter. Part of the forests in Unit 12 and most of the forests in Unit 11 were cut and yarded. The rest of the forests were left to be logged this coming spring. The forest of Unit 11 was cut around a tree-sitter leaving a large un-cut buffer to remain -- so far.

By Francis Eatherington, UW's Forest Monitor

President's Message

ome people who come from around the world to fish for Steelhead in the North Umpqua tell their guides that it is the most beautiful river they have seen. For us who live here, it has beauty in many more dimensions: we traverse its length, we swim it, study its inhabitants, clean up its banks and lament the way it is treated by some who find it a convenient way to take the garbage out. It is even part of us, as we drink water from it and eat fish caught in it; literally it becomes part of us. It follows that we would have a great interest in what happens and what could happen to this river.

Fifty years ago when "development" was king, the potential for electricity generation from the fall of water on the north was irresistible and a mega-project was approved and built. At the time it was believed that biology was easily manipulated, and that fish hatcheries would, for example, replace fish numbers reduced by the project. Now we are all aware of how complicated this interdependent life is and how difficult it is to avoid harming it.

Three local non-governmental organizations (NGO's), Umpqua Watersheds, Steamboaters, and Umpqua Valley Chapter of Audubon have been joined by a statewide group, Oregon Natural Resources Council, and a national group, American Rivers, to work toward achieving the maximum benefits possible from the negotiations to relicense the North Umpqua Hydro Project. A foreign company, Scottish Power, purchased Pacific Power last year and now owns the facility. The land under it belongs to the American People and the river flowing through belongs to the people of Oregon. The company has a license, now being renewed.

Pacific Power paid for a Watershed Analysis that, among other things stated that the anadromous fish species would benefit from the removal of Soda Springs Dam, the eighth and last of the string of water impoundments on the river. This dam blocks once abundant Fish Creek and keeps migrating fish from their ancient home. The Forest Service, after analysis, called for the removal of this dam as a condition of re-licensure. The company balked, and walked out of negotiations for 9 months. They have resumed, but without the NGO's, who are not accepting the direction of the talks. Details cannot be shared because of the restrictions of a confidentiality agreement. We recently met with Governor Kitzhaber at his request, to share our positions and our "bottom line." We told him that we wanted the dam removed, the practice of "ramping" ended (water is poured out of reservoirs at times of peak needs for power which strands small fish in pools and causing their death) and adequate covers over the canals which are deadly for animals and people.

Our group, with expertise in fisheries, law, and economics, recently spoke to the Chamber of Commerce and has reached out to the media. We will continue our efforts and ask for your support. It may take years, but we are prepared for the long haul. If you want to help, contact officers or staff of the NGO's listed. The life of the river, which includes us, will be grateful.

UMPQUA WATERSHEDS - Bob Allen & Penny Lind - 672-7065 UMPQUA VALLEY AUDOBON - Diana Wales & Stan Vejtasa STEAMBOATERS - Ken Ferguson

> Bob Allen is President of Umpqua Watersheds, a long time resident and progressive activist in Douglas County.

Autumn Hike Review

ctober 28, Jim Ince, his son Sangey and Marline Koch hosted UW's hike. We walked from the Railroad Gap shelter and Cold Springs on the Rogue-Umpqua Divide down the 6.5 mile Cow Creek South Fork Trail 1424 to the intersection with East Fork. Down, you say? Yes, thanks to Jim who first bussed us up to the pass from the parking area.

En route we traced the flow of waters from Cold Springs and other tributaries; we admired the huge conifers; we wondered whether those early miners found any gold; we marveled at the spectacular colors of maple in the lower reaches. We appreciated Jim's demonstrating how NOT to cross a creek on slippery stones! Throughout, we enjoyed easy conversation with locals and others from more distant parts. Thank you, Jim and company.

November 11, we motored to the Dunes National Recreation Area office in Reedsport. Siuslaw Forest wildlife biologist, Cindy Burns, oriented us to the Dunes with a brief film by that name and featured her recovery work with the threatened snowy plover on beaches overrun with European beachgrass.

Then, Robin Hartmann, Douglas County coordinator of Coast Watch, a volunteer program of the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, led a walk along the beach south of Sparrow Park Road. Robin's theme? Change. Change happens along the coast because of winds, storms, tides, streams, invasive plants, shifts among predator populations AND human activity.

For instance, in the early 1900s settlers introduced European beachgrass to combat erosion of coastal sand. Indeed, the grass holds the sand. But that leads to changes in the terrain. Now, on the ocean side, we see foredunes with steep bluffs and on the lee side, we see hummocks and deflation plains. An unanticipated problem is that the aggressive beachgrass creeps toward the ocean, overcoming the snowy plover's nesting habitat and inviting plover predators.

Our thanks to Cindy and Robin for an informative Saturday on the Oregon beach in the crisp sun.

On our hike **November 18**, Bob Allen discussed issues of re-licensing the North Umpqua Hydroelectric Project. We started our hike at Soda Springs Dam--now a barrier to anadromous fish that before 1946 spawned in Fish Creek. Removing Soda Springs Dam as a necessary condition for re-licensing the foreign-owned Hydro Project for another 30-50 years would extend spawning reaches by several miles and would permit gravel and organic matter from Fish Creek to flow into downstream reaches. That recommendation is supported by Umpqua Watersheds, Audubon and Steamboaters—the three local conservation groups that have been involved in the negotiations.

From Soda Springs powerhouse, we hiked up into the Boulder Creek Wilderness and through Pine Bench as far as Mizell Lookout Point. A great day to share values of wildness. Thanks, Bob!

Jim Long, a retired agriculture professor, volunteers on the Education Committees of Umpqua Watersheds, Small Woodlot Owners Association and the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council.

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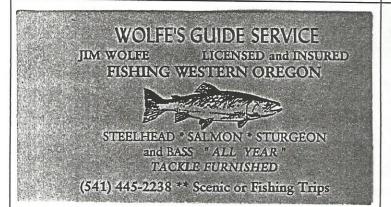


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— D.H. Lawrence



UW's Winter 2000 Hikes & Events!



January 14 - Snockers Knoll

Come see the "Islands of Refuge" for Owls, Bald Eagles, Red-tailed hawks, Red Tree Voles, rare plants and more. Meet Board Members and other members from North County.



Monu-

January 20 - Snowshoe proposed ment

Explore the beauty and wonders of UW's proposed National Monument around Diamond Lake and below Mount Bailey with USFS bio-tech, Steve Burns. Snow shoes will be available to rent for \$10. Call UW to reserve. Beginners encouraged! Carpool will meet behind Courthouse at 8am (see page 1).



February 10 - Sustainable Forestry Tour

Learn how a 420 acre Smartwood/FSC certified forest results in low impact roads and harvesting, individual tree selection, niche markets, special forest products, stream restoration, native grass seed plots and greenhouse plant propagation. Former UW Board Member and sustainable forester, David Parker, will lead the tour of his hard work.

Feb. 17 - 5th Annual Banquet & Silent Auction

Former Congressman Jim Jontz will speak about protecting sustainable jobs (see flyer insert).

February 24 - Cross Country Skiing

Once again explore UW's proposed National Monument with a Cross Country ski trip into the Diamond Lake and Mount Bailey Area. Skiers will be responsible for their own skis. Call for ski equipment locations: 672-7065. Carpool will meet behind Courthouse at 8am. Beginners encouraged!



March 10 - Brice Creek & Trestle Creek Falls

Hike a 3.4 mile loop on a Forest Service trail into Brice Creek valley through deep, natural forests to upper Trestle Creek falls which is a very sacred place.

March 17 - The Rock in Lookingglass

Climb the amazing geological wonder with great views of Tenmile & Lookingglass Valleys. Hopefully the Spring flowers will offer colorful compliments to the vistas.



For more info: 672-7065 or email: uw@teleport.com

Hikers will meet behind Courthouse near Deer Creek at **9am** unless otherwise specified. Other meeting points in area of the hikes will be announced in News Review and via email.

5th Umpqua Watersheds' Annual Banquet & Silent Auction

February 17 Saturday, 5pm

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Banquet Keynote Speaker:

Former Congressman Jim Jontz

Executive Director of Alliance for Sustainable Jobs

Jim Jontz calls himself a recovering politician.

In 1974 at the age of 22, he became Indiana's second youngest legislator ever by defeating the Majority Leader of the Indiana House by two votes. He served in the Indiana General Assembly 12 years.

From 1987-1992, he represented Indiana's 5th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, serving on the Committees on Agriculture, Education and Labor, Veterans, and Interior.

Following his defeat in 1992, Jim led the unsuccessful efforts of the Citizens Trade Campaign in opposition to NAFTA, and the (successful) campaign by the Endangered Species Coalition to save the Endangered Species Act in the 104th Congress.

Jim began work as executive director of the Western Ancient Forest Campaign (WAFC) in 1995.

He has brought about the transition of WAFC into the American Lands Alliance and the American Lands Campaign to provide a stronger grassroots voice for citizens working for protection of wildlife and wild places nationwide.

Since 1998, Jim has also served as the National President of Americans for Democratic Action, the liberal advocacy group founded by Eleanor Roosevelt and John Kenneth Galbraith.

Jim is finishing his work with American Lands on 12/31/00, and has recently taken a new assignment as the interim coordinator for the Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment, a labor/environmental coalition based in Portland.

Jim's home town is Silver Lake, Indiana.

Silent Auction offers many great books and other gifts

he recent proposed closing of the Rock Creek Fish Hatchery has brought up the issue of "from where do the Salmon come?" If you have been searching for an explanation of why wild runs of these extraordinary fish are far superior to hatchery fish; this book is for you. Jim Lichatowich, a respected fisheries biologist has written a detailed account of the saga of the Salmon runs of the Pacific Northwest. This book is sure to become a classic. From volcanic creation to the latest research it is all here laid out in a readable, well-organized, enjoyable book. The book reveals the destructive practices and blunders of the last 100 years including the many crass political deals, which have allowed the destruction to continue. The facts about these fish runs have been clear and understood for decades but the political will to challenge cherished prejudices has been absent until we are on the brink of extinction. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in a good read to get fired up for the challenges of the next few years.

Where can you get a copy? While Away Books on Harvard Ave. has them in stock or you could attend the 5th Annual Banquet for Umpqua Watersheds. We will have five (5!!!) first editions of Salmon Without Rivers, signed by the Author available. We intend to start a tradition with these five books. If you purchase one of the five, sign your name on the inside cover, read the book and then pass it on to the person you would like to see read it. They sign their name in it, read it and pass it on too. This is sort of like a chain letter.

There will be several other books at this auction as well. Another signed first edition is *Forest Blood*, a novel by former Jackson County Commissioner Jeff Golden. *Exploring Oregon's Wild Areas, A Guide for Hikers, Backpackers, Climbers, X-C Skiers & Paddlers* is written by William Sullivan a well respected nature writer who has a number of these type of books to his credit. As the Banquet date draws near we will have many interesting items added to the Silent Auction. Bring your checkbook so you can bid, too. *Offered by Richard Chasm co-chair of Banquet Committee*.

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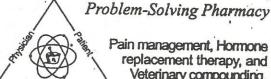
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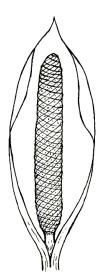
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A Wildflower Story



Skunk Cabbage still holds his ceremonial war club and wears his elk skin blanket...

Many years ago, when the animals could talk, the People were suffering. It was very early spring and there were no Salmon. The People went to Raven and said, "Can you help us? We're starving." Raven said, "I'll ask Skunk Cabbage if he can help." Skunk Cabbage said, "I'll teach Salmon how to run up the rivers to where the People live, and the People can eat my hot, peppery roots until the Salmon get here." In this way, Skunk Cabbage saved the People, and was given a ceremonial war club and and an elk skin blanket, which he carries to this day.

Most people in the Northwest have seen the conspicuous, bright yellow flowers of Skunk Cabbage (*Lysichitum americanum*) blooming in wet places in earliest spring. The "war club" (spadix) is the flowering structure, which emits a powerful odor attractive to rove beetles and flies who pollinate the plant—it blooms too early for bees. The "blanket" (spathe) surrounding the flower is thought to concentrate the scent and lead insects to the pollen.

Researchers have discovered that Skunk Cabbage has an amazing ability to emit heat, raising the temperature around itself far above air temperatures. For about 2 weeks in very early spring, fuel stored in the roots energizes activity in the flower that produces heat, maintaining temperatures of 59° to 72°. The flower can actually melt snow around it. The spathe is now thought to act as a thermal blanket as well, helping maintain the warmed atmosphere around the flower. This curious mechanism increases the volatility of the scent,

Earth Friendly Suggestions

General:

Dry paper towels and reuse. Use fabric scraps instead.

Recycle everything possible: plastics, metals, glass, paper, motor oil . Compost food waste.

Reuse envelopes, mailers, folders, jars, plastic bags.

Take last months magazines to a hospital or doctors office.

Send old tires to be ground up for road surfacing.

Take care of vehicles, appliances, etc. so they last. Repair, don't replace.

Walk when possible. Ride a bike. Use public transport.

Buy recycled paper. Use both sides of paper. Use back of printed paper for scrap paper, children's artwork.

Don't have children.

Teach children conservation and appreciation of the outdoors.

Talk with people about the issues.

Support environmental groups and earth-friendly companies.

Reuse greeting cards as gift tags. Wrap gifts in fabric.

Avoid purchase of overpackaged items. Buy in bulk.

Buy used clothing, books and toys.

Wear layers of clothing for warmth to conserve heat.

Use rechargeable batteries.

Read newspapers online. Cancel unwanted catalogs.

Recycle or reuse shopping bags. Use cloth shopping bags.

Around Home:

Use old towels to wash windows.

Use vinegar instead of cleaning chemicals, borax instead of bleach. Use permanent washable containers instead of lunch bags & sandwich bags.

Use every possible pot for transplanting.

Wash clothes less often. Shower every other day. Use a water saver shower head. Use a composting toilet.

Turn off or unplug appliances when not in use to save background drain of electricity. Turn off hot water heater when not needed. Use the cold water that runs while waiting for the hot.

Conserve gas by planning and consolidating trips. Drive a little under the freeway speed limit to save gas.

Buy organic food. Grow organic food. Avoid use of any pesticides or chemical fertilizers. Use compost.

Save and reuse lumber.

Use cloth napkins. Make them from fabric scraps.

Turn out lights when not in use. Use florescent bulbs. Use motion detector outside lights.

Use solar energy. Teach others about alternate energy sources.

Turn down the heat. Don't heat unused areas. Don't hold the refrigerator door open.

Use a broom to clean walkways. Use a broom wherever possible. Use laundry discs instead of detergent.

Use cloth diapers and wipes.

Use clothesline or drying rack instead of dryer. Wash only in cold water.

If you use a dishwasher, turn off and open door before drying cycle.

Don't use a garbage disposal. Use a compost bucket.

Put a "soup stuff" container in freezer for leftovers and food scraps and every so often make a soup stock.

National Monument Enhances Recreation

+ 20 plus snow trails

Threatened Beauty

Not only is Diamond Lake our best-loved and mostused recreation area, it is also the heaviest logged place in the Umpqua. Conflicts have to happen with logging units over hiking trails, in view sheds and fragmenting wild roadless areas. Nearly 90,000 acres of the entire monument are roadless and without protection, threatened by logging and road building. For example, the ecologically important Mount Bailey Inventoried Roadless Area has declined from 20,300 acres in 1979 to 18,627 acres.

To protect places like this, forest activists have fought timber sales one by one, protecting each watershed for just a moment in time. This is an opportunity to bring all of our efforts together to protect this diverse, rich forest.

Old-growth forests cover nearly one-third (27%) of the proposed monument area. Eighty percent of the 206,000 acres under the proposed monument includes biologically rich, mid- and low-elevation forests. Currently, this beautiful land is threatened by the logging of old-growth forests and road building. The Diamond Lake Ranger District is planning to remove over 120 million board feet from this area in the near future. That is over 25,000 log truck loads!

Last year, 830 million visitors made their way to the National Forests. Recreation activities on National Forest lands in the year 2000 are projected to generate over \$97.8 billion dollars into the economy. Resource extraction, including all mining and logging, is projected to produce only about one-tenth of that. In addition, the Forest Service projects that the largest growth in recreation in the next 50 years will be wildlife viewing and backpacking.

Now is the time to protect this diverse and rich forest for generations to come. By enjoying the forest through hiking, biking, fishing, horseback riding, skiing, boating, rafting, canoeing, climbing, and other activities, we can ensure that the forest will be there to share in the future.

John Podesta, White House Chief of Staff, OEOB, Washington, D.C. 20501

Or call: (202)456-6797

Or fax: 202/456-1121 and 202/456-7929

Taken from UW's website prepared by Umpqua Watersheds' staff Robin Wisdom & Francis Eatherington.

BOOK REVIEW

by UW Member Curt Porter

'A Conspiracy of Optimism, Management of the National Forests Since World War II" by Paul Hirt

hen visiting the backcountry of our public lands, or following political events concerning their management, I always end up running into the same nagging question, "How did we get to this point?" How did we end up with the lands in their current state, and the crazy patchwork of management rules that seem to rival the federal tax code? Someone then pointed me to a book which provided many answers.

An assistant professor of western history at Washington State University, Paul Hirt leads us on a historical tour of the management of our National Forests in his book, A Conspiracy of Optimism. This well-referenced journey begins with a description of the events taking place at the end of the 19th century that led to the creation of national public forests, and how a few years later these forests were opened to commercial logging. It continues that significant timber extraction from these forests didn't occur until roughly after World War II, due to the gradual exhaustion of private supplies, and a sharp increase in demand during and after the war.

The majority of the book covers this post-war period of management, and details the actions of the 'trinity of management'; Congress, the Forest Service, and the wood products industry. As becomes apparent, Congress's contribution was in exercising control over the Service's actions through specific budget allocations, which forced the majority of the Service's efforts into the shortterm, short-sighted goal of maximum timber extraction, at the expense of all other goals, including the Service's efforts to conduct sustainable management, reforestation efforts, recreation development, wildlife, soils, watershed conservation, et cetera. For their part, the Service chose to deal with the conflicting demands upon the public lands by attempting to satisfy ALL the demands. What resulted was what is called 'intensive management'. It was thought that by liberally applying technology and tax dollars, the National Forests would yield larger timber outputs, while doing so at a sustainable rate. In this way, the ever increasing timber targets Congress mandated to the Service could be met, while simultaneously ensuring the conservation of the forests for future timber supplies and other values. Congress continued requiring larger harvests, and the Service continued doctoring their plans and numbers to show that these targets were reachable AND sustainable. Regardless of whether their plan was even feasible, there was virtually no congress ever in session which was willing to fund the Service adequately in support of it. Also detailed are some of the industry's activities, political and otherwise, towards emphasizing the overriding importance of timber production on the forests over all other uses, as well as the often futile efforts of other user groups at influencing the management decisions.

It is interesting that from a textbook on American Government, we can view an idealistic image of how our federal government should function, but it requires a historical account, like A Conspiracy of Optimism, to see the (often disturbing) reality of how it actually operates. Hopefully, this history will help us avoid repeating these mistakes of the past.

A Video about the Umpqua

"UMPQUA: OREGON'S THREATENED PARADISE"

his new Cascadia Media Collective film describes the plight of the Northwest's Ancient Forest. It can be a gift as well as a conservation tool.

Here are some brief excerpts and facts from it.

"I think it is the most incredibly beautiful place in the universe," says one visitor to the Umpqua as she gazes upon one of the magnificent waterfalls cascading from the Umpqua's ancient forest. Above the North Umpqua's waterfalls, the US Forest Service has decided to cut down 15,000 log truck loads of trees in the next few yearsmore than 80 million board feet-under the flawed justification that several endangered salmon species can not swim above them.

Less than 1% of our ancient forests in North America still stand, and the Umpquawhich stretches along the crest of the Oregon Cascade Mountains and borders Crater Lake National Park--is a vital part of that last 1% which supports many endangered species including the Canadian lynx and wolverine. Right now, the Umpqua is being destroyed by abusive practices such as "clearcutting" and "broadcast burning" -- a horrid form of mismanagement by the Forest Service that leaves huge swaths of forest in scorched ruins. Attempts to replant these areas usually fail because the Forest Service simply can not get a forest to grow back where it took thousands of years for the previous forest stand to flourish there.

This is the future which awaits the ancient Umpqua forests: at least eight roadless areas in the North Umpqua could soon be roaded and logged. The Umpqua National Forest Supervisor and Ranger has relentlessly pursued these timber sales. An example is the Snog timber sale where the timber company awarded this sale wants out of the contract because they will lose money logging it. Yet the Forest Service is forcing the company to clearcut the Snog timber sale against their own Umpqua National Forest Biologists recommendations that the sale not be clearcut because it could damage the watershed. The Umpqua National Forest Supervisor has been quoted saying "that we will be cutting old growth in the Umpqua National Forest for the next 20 to 30 years".

Ask Umpqua Watersheds

Send your environmental or nature questions to Ask Umpqua Watersheds at uw@teleport.com or PO Box 101, Roseburg, OR 97470. Please include your name, address and phone number.

EXAMPLE QUESTION:

"I read about the recent proposal to make part of the Diamond Lake Ranger District into the Medicine Mountain National Monument. family loves to camp at Diamond Lake and participate in recreational activities like mountain biking and hiking. Will the designation of a national monument limit some types of recreational activities?"

ANSWER:

The proposal that Umpqua Watersheds submitted was just a proposal to designate the area as a national monument and did not discuss particular management or recreational activities. Once the national monument is designated, then the public will be allowed to participate in the management plan by submission of public comments.

Botanist Leads Hike

to Roadless Area

n Saturday, December 9, about 15 of us gathered for an Umpqua Watersheds hike into the Williams Creek Roadless area, which is on the north side of Highway 138, about 2 miles west of the Steamboat area. Forest Service botanist, Lisa Wolf, joined us for the hike, and provided a wonderful narrative story of the area and its plant life. This block of roadless public lands is greater than 5000 acres, and part of the Forest Service's inventory of roadless areas, so it's future will depend upon the outcome of the current efforts by the Forest Service and Clinton administration to protect such areas. Due in part to the extremely steep terrain, and a visit by a severe fire some 100 years ago, which destroyed a great majority of the trees, the area has remained one of the least desirable for timber harvesting, which is the reason for its roadless condition.

From a short road off of 138 at the mouth of Williams Creek, the trail follows a little-used service road up a significant grade until it passes under utility power lines. From this point, where it changes to a steep, yet sound, foot trail, it runs along a ridgeline west of Williams Creek, through a mix of beautiful madrone, chinkapin, douglas fir, et al. Through openings in the tree cover at points, it provides inspiring views across the North Umpqua valley, and the river below. The trail continues through the middle of the roadless area, to the Northwest, for about 7 miles, when it ends at a BLM road outside the National Forest boundary.

Reported by UW Member Curt Porter who will lead Brice Creek hike March 10th (see p. 7).

Over the next 30 years the Northwest Forest Plan allows one million acres of our last ancient forests to be cut. We must convince the Forest Service through public and political pressure not to cut these irreplaceable forests. In turn, we must take immediate action to stop the destruction of the last 1% of our ancient forests before there is nothing left to protect. Share this beautiful, inspirational film with your family and friends and find out ways you can help save the last ancient forests.

> To order a video or learn how to help email or call:

> > Cascadia Media Collective: www.cascadiamedia.org thecmc@efn.org

Ancient Forest Defense 2001: tsuga@efn.org or call 541-746-3371

Umpqua Watersheds: www.umpqua-watersheds.org

or call **541-672-7065**

Videos are available for \$5 at UW's office Downtown Roseburg 630 SE Jackson

Forest Projects Beneficial to Salmon CAN Proceed

Judge keeps injunction on federal timber sales that harm salmon.

Seattle – Acting on a request by commercial fishermen and conservationists, a federal district court in Seattle has clarified a December 7 injunctive order which stopped 170 federal timber sales in Washington, Oregon and northern California. The court has clarified that the injunction applies to ONLY timber sales, and that federal land agencies should proceed with watershed restoration projects and road repairs that could be beneficial to salmon.

The federal agencies had stopped these beneficial projects in response to the December 7 court ruling, potentially resulting in serious harm to salmon habitat. *The clarified court order now allows these projects to proceed.*

The court is also expected to further clarify the order to allow trees that have already been cut and felled to be hauled out of the federal forests, if the yarding methods and removal of those trees will not harm salmon habitat.

"The rule is simple here," said Glen Spain of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, the lead plaintiff in the suit. "Actions such as timber sales that harm endangered salmon should not proceed. Actions such as stream restorations projects that benefit salmon should move forward."

On December 7, the federal district court ruled that the U.S. government violated the law by approving Northwest Forest Plan timber sales that could harm endangered salmon species. As a result, the court enjoined approximately 170 federal timber sales in WA, OR, and northern California.

In the case, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations (PCFFA) v. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the court ruled that in approving the timber sales, the federal government failed to properly look at critical impacts of timber sales on fish habitat. The court also found that government fish biologists' recommendations for salmon protection were ignored, and that planned logging in riparian reserves violated the Northwest Forest Plan.

"The fishermen and conservationists who brought this case told the court and the federal government that projects beneficial to salmon should proceed," said Jan Hasselman, an attorney with Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund, which represented the plaintiffs in the case. "We are pleased that the court has taken such swift action to clarify the order and only enjoin projects, such as timber sales, which are harmful to endangered salmon."

Six Reasons Against Quarry

(Continued from page 3)

impact. This has been recognized, and precedent set, by a 1994 decision regarding a quarry operation near Dry Creek to expand the buffer zone for osprey protection. Many other animal species would be harmfully impacted as well. A sound engineer who testified played a tape for us of a typical similarly-sized quarry operation. Even played at ½ the volume, it was over-whelming loud and drowned out all other conversation in the room.

Car Wrecks – The access road to and from the quarry site is on a dangerous, nearly-blind curve of Hwy. 138. A truck every 5 to 6 minutes would be entering or exiting the quarry at a slow speed. There are 12 school busses daily going past there carrying our children to and from our Glide schools. Our community's children would be placed in danger by this operation.

Air pollution – A life-long quarry worker verified how it is impossible to operate a quarry without *dust and grit being everywhere* in the nearby vicinity.

Groundwater Pollution – In the 50 years since this quarry was last in operation, the residential community has grown in this area, and a number of people living nearby with wells for household water expressed concern over contamination of their supply from chemical solvent residue and spills.

Incompatibility – Again as a result of the growth over the last 50 years of our community into a rural residential area, a number of citizens expressed opposition regarding the compatibility of such an operation with the beauty, tranquility and peace and quiet of our community today.

Umpqua Watersheds supports the efforts of NO NUQ and the community in their opposition to this quarry operation. The Douglas County Planning Commission delayed a decision and continued the hearing until **January 4**th in room 216 of the courthouse building at **7pm**. This hearing is open to the public and UW urges our supporters to attend and voice your opinions. You can also contact:

NO NUQ PO Box 613 Glide, OR 97443

Or call 496-4600 for further information or support.

One can only hope the Planning commission will take the high road on this, by listening to the many concerns voiced by the community, and deny an operating permit for this operation.

Umpqua Watersheds Board Member, Geoff Niles is a Glide resident..

Umpqua Watersheds Thanks Our Generous 2000 Executive Stewards (\$100 or more) List does not include Businesses.

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NO Quarry on the North Umpqua by Geoff Niles Umpqua Updates: SNOG, UW Sues BLM, Forest Vandals Winter Hikes and Events: Schedule for Jan, Feb & March Umpqua Land Exchange Project: Another Public Land Grab! page 3 page 4 page 7 page 10



5th Umpqua Watersheds' Annual Banquet & Silent Auction

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Banquet Keynote Speaker:

Former Congressman Jim Jontz

Executive Director of Alliance for Sustainable Jobs

Jim Jontz calls himself a recovering politician.

In 1974 at the age of 22, he became Indiana's second youngest legislator ever by defeating the Majority Leader of the Indiana House by two votes. He served in the Indiana General Assembly 12 years.

From 1987-1992, he represented Indiana's 5th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, serving on the Committees on Agriculture, Education and Labor, Veterans, and Interior.

Following his defeat in 1992, Jim led the unsuccessful efforts of the Citizens Trade Campaign in opposition to NAFTA, and the (successful) campaign by the Endangered Species Coalition to save the Endangered Species Act in the 104th Congress.

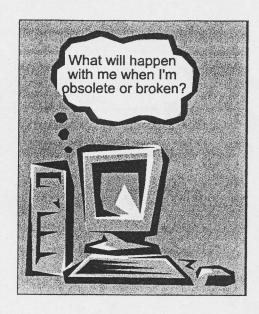
Jim began work as executive director of the Western Ancient Forest Campaign (WAFC) in 1995. He has brought about the transition of WAFC into the American Lands Alliance and the American Lands Campaign to provide a stronger grassroots voice for citizens working for protection of wildlife and wild places nationwide.

Since 1998, Jim has also served as the National President of Americans for Democratic Action, the liberal advocacy group founded by Eleanor Roosevelt and John Kenneth Galbraith.

Jim is finishing his work with American Lands on 12/31/00, and has recently taken a new assignment as the interim coordinator for the Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment, a labor/environmental coalition based in Portland.

Jim's home town is Silver Lake, Indiana.





"Recycle Your Old Computer!" Event

Saturday, January 13, 2001 10:00 AM. to 4:00 PM.

National Guard Armory - 111 General Ave., Roseburg

A computer recycling event is scheduled for Saturday, January 13th to collect all unwanted computers and their components. The event is organized by Douglas High School StRUT (Students Recycling Used Technology), Douglas County Waste Reduction, and the Oregon Army National Guard. Any computer, working or not, keyboards, mice, monitors, and other peripherals will be accepted at the one-day collection event at the National Guard Armory, 111 General Avenue in Roseburg. Reusable computer components will be refurbished by Douglas High School students and given to qualified recipients. All non reusable components will be sent to the state StRUT headquarters and recycled. Tax deductible receipts will be available for donations.

Empty out your closets, upgrade your system, get a tax deduction, and keep obsolete computers out of the landfill!

There will be a business-only collection on Friday, January 12.

Call the contacts below for more information.

For more information contact:

Candy Robinson at Terri Peterson at robinsonc@wdsd.org

txpeters@co.douglas.or.us

or call at 440-4350